

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
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R 261525Z MAY 78  
FM USMISSION USBERLIN  
TO AMEMBASSY BONN  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6891  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 USBERLIN 1231

E O 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PGOV BQG UK  
SUBJ: VISIT OF QUEEN ELIZABETH TO BERLIN MAY 24

REF: USBERLIN 1173

SUMMARY: MAY 24 VISIT OF QUEEN ELIZABETH AND PRINCE PHILIP  
TO BERLIN WAS ROUSING SUCCESS. THERE WERE NO ONTOWARD INCIDENTS.  
ONLY DISCORDANT NOTE SOUNDED WAS SOVIET/GDR COMPLAINT FRONT-  
PAED IN NEUES DEUTSCHLAND MAY 25 OVER BILLING OF VISIT AS  
OCCURRING "WITHIN FRAMEWORK" OF QUEEN'S VISIT TO FRG AND OVER  
PRESENCE OF FRG OFFICIALS IN BERLIN IN CONNECTION WITH TRIP.  
END SUMMARY.

1. THE BRITISH ROYAL PAIR, ACCOMPANIED BY BRITISH FOREIGN  
MINISTER OWEN, FLEW INTO GATOW AIRPORT IN THE BRITISH SECTOR  
ON MORNING OF 24TH FOR FIVE-HOUR VISIT. THEY WERE MET BY FRG  
FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER AND VARIOUS BERLIN OFFICIALS. QUEEN PRO-  
CEEDED TO A CEREMONIAL PARADE IN HONOR OF HER BIRTHDAY PUT ON BY  
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THE BRITISH GARRISON, FOLLOWING THAT BY LUNCH AT SCHLOSS CHAR-  
LOTTENBURG, HOSTTED BY BERLIN GOVERNING MAYOR DIETRICH STOBBE.  
AMONG GUESTS WERE FRG CHANCELLOR HELMUT SCHMIDT, WHO HAD  
ARRIVE IN BERLIN ON SEPARATE AIRPLANE AT TEGEL AIRPORT. ABOUT  
2,000 OF BERLIN'S ELITE WERE THEN INVITED TO A RECEP-  
TION FOR THE QUEEN AT THE SCHLOSS; IN THEIR ENTHUSIASM, THE  
BERLINERS PRESSED SO CLOSE AROUND THE QUEEN THAT ONLY A

RELATIVE FEW WERE REALLY ABLE TO SPEAK WITH OR EVEN SEE HER. THE OFFICIAL PARTY DROVE DOWN THE KURFUEURSTENDAMM TO THE KAISER WILHELM MEMORIAL CHURCH WHERE ABOUT 40,000 BERLINERS LISTENED TO BRIEF REMARKS BY THE QUEEN, SCHMIDT, AND STOBBE. IN ALL, POLICE ESTIMATED THAT OVER 150,000 BERLINERS GOT TO SEE THE QUEEN SOMETIME DURING HER TRIP. WITHOUT EXCEPTION, THEY RECEIVED HER WITH WARMTH AND ENTHUSIASM, BUT NOT WILD EMOTIONAL DISPLAYS. PRESS COVERAGE WAS OVERWHELMING, WITHOUT RECENT PRECEDENT. LOCAL NEWSPAPERS COMPLAINED BEFORE QUEEN ARRIVED IN BERLIN THAT HER STAY WAS "TOO SHORT" DID NOT FIND THEIR WAY INTO COVERAGE OF ACTUAL VISIT. INSTEAD, REAMS OF NEWSPAPER AND HOURS OF TELEVISION COVERAGE PUT BERLIN STOP IN MOST FAVORABLE LIGHT. QUEEN ELIZABETH DEPARTED BERLIN FROM TEGEL AT 1630 HOURS. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT AND OTHER FRG OFFICIALS FOLLOWED IN ANOTHER (U.S. AIR FORCE) AIRCRAFT.

2. THE QUEEN'S SPEECH AT THE MEMORIAL CHURCH EMPHASIZED THE TIES BETWEEN BRITAIN AND BERLIN. COPIES REACHED BONN AND WASHINGTON). BERLIN, SHE SAID, HAS "ELICITED OUR SYMPATHY AND ADMIRATION." THE CITY WAS THE "TEST STONE OF THE PEACEFUL INTENTIONS OF OTHERS." SHE CONCLUDED THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM HAD "THE OBLIGATION TO DEFEND YOUR FREEDOM AS LONG AS NECESSARY UNTIL THE WOUNDS OF DIVISION IN EUROPE AND IN YOUR CITY CAN BE HEALED."

3. CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, IN HIS TURN AT THE PODIUM, CHOSE  
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TO EMPHASIZE AN IMPORTANT EVENT WHICH HAD OCCURRED BETWEEN THE QUEEN'S LAST VISIT 13 YEARS AGO AND HER PRESENT ONE: THE SIGNING OF THE QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT WHICH, HE ADDED, HAD BROUGHT IMPORTANT PRACTICAL IMPROVEMENTS TO BERLIN; IT WAS A STEP ON THE WAY TO REDUCING TENSIONS IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND ALLEVIATING THE CONSEQUENCES OF THE DIVISION OF EUROPE. SCHMIDT ALSO POINTED OUT THE TIES BETWEEN BRITONS AND BERLINERS AND EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR THE FIRM BRITISH COMMITMENT TO BERLIN. GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE NOTED, PERHAPS AS A KIND OF REBUTTAL TO WELL-KNOWN SOVIET OBJECTIONS TO THE QUEEN'S VISIT, THAT SHE CAME HERE ON THE BASIS OF HER OWN RIGHT AS THE SOVEREIGN OF THE BRITISH PROTECTING POWER. STOBBE THANKED THE U.S., UK, AND FRANCE FOR STANDING FIRM FOR BERLIN FOR OVER THREE DECADES.

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/066 W

-----127217 261744Z /75

R 261525Z MAY 78  
FM USMISSION USBERLIN  
TO AMEMBASSY BONN  
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6892  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
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4. THERE WAS NO SIGNIFICANT INCIDENTS TO MAR THE QUEEN'S SOJOURN. DESPITE FEARS TO THE CONTRARY, NO SOVIET PATROLS APPEARED IN THE VICINITY OF THE QUEEN OR OTHERWISE CAUSED ANY DIFFICULTIES. THE ONE DISCORDANT NOTE WAS THE FRONT-PAGE STORY IN NEUES DEUTSCHLAND MAY 25 COMPLAINING ABOUT THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE QUEEN'S VISIT. NEUES DEUTSCHLAND CITED AN ALLEGED PROTEST BY THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN WHICH THE SOVIETS COMPLAINED ABOUT "CERTAIN CIRCLES OF THE FRG" AND WEST BERLIN MAKING "OBSTINATE ATTEMPTS" TO REPRESENT THE QUEEN'S TRIP AS AN INSEPARABLE CONSTITUENT PART OF THE OFFICIAL VISIT OF THE QUEEN TO THE FRG. THE FACT THAT THE QUEEN WAS ACCOMPANIED BY THE FRG CHANCELLOR ALSO SERVED THIS GOAL. DESPITE THE FACT, N.D. CAVILED THAT IT WAS GENERALLY KNOWN THAT WEST BERLIN WAS NO CONSTITUENT PART OF THE FRG, NOT GOVERNED BY IT, AND STATE ORGANS OF THE FRG INCLUDING THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR CANNOT PERFORM CONSTITUTIONAL OR OFFICIAL ACTS IN THE CITY. N.D. CONCLUDED WITH WHAT WOULD APPEAR TO BE A DIRECT QUOTE FROM THE ALLEGED SOVIET STATEMENT: "THE EMBASSY OF THE USSR IN THE GDR CONSIDERS IT  
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NECESSARY TO INDICATE WITH ALL CLARITY THAT SUCH ACTIONS OF THE WEST GERMAN SIDE STAND IN CONTRADICTION TO THE QUADRIpartite AGREEMENT AND ARE NOT IN ACCORD WITH THE TASKS OF INCORPORATING WEST BERLIN IN THE PROCESS OF DETENTE AND THE PROTECTION OF CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION BY THE DIFFERENT COUNTRIES." IN FACT, THE SOVIETS HAVE ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS MADE KNOWN THEIR DISPLEASURE WITH THE CIRCUMSTANCES

OF THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO BERLIN. IN EARLY MAY WE LEARNED FROM BRITISH MISSION HERE THAT ZEMSKOV OF THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN LONDON HAD CALLED ON THE FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE ON THE SUBJECT. ZEMSKOV REPEATED HIS REMARKS ON MAY 22. IN ADDITION, SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO THE GDR ABRASIMOV RAISED THE ISSUE WITH BRITISH AMBASSADOR TO FRG WRIGHT ON MAY 17 (REFTEL). THESE ASIDE, THERE HAS NOT BEEN ANOTHER FORMAL PROTEST BY THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN BERLIN.

5. SOVIETS LENT STRENGTH TO THEIR OBJECTIONS BY POINTEDLY STAYING AWAY FROM ALL FESTIVITIES CONNECTED WITH QUEEN'S VISIT. NEITHER SOVIET CONSULATE GENERAL, EMBASSY, NOR MILITARY REPRESENTATIVES FROM SOVIET INTERNAL RELATIONS BRANCH (SERB) AT POTSDAM PARTICIPATED, ALTHOUGH INVITED. THEIR COLLEAGUES, THE EASTERN EUROPEAN CONSULATES GENERAL AND MILITARY MISSIONS IN WEST BERLIN, WITH THE LONE EXCEPTION OF THE ROMANIAN CONSUL GENERAL, JOINED IN THE BOYCOTT.

6. TAGESSPIEGEL MAY 25 SUGGESTS THAT SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO DURING BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO BONN IN EARLY MAY WAS TOLD NOT ONLY THAT THE FEDERAL CHANCELLOR WOULD BE COMING TO BERLIN IN CONNECTION WITH THE QUEEN'S VISIT; IT ALSO INDICATES THAT THE SOVIETS HAD BEEN TOLD THEN THAT THE ARRIVAL IN SEPARATE PLANES MEANT THAT THE FRG RESPECTED THE FACT THAT BERLIN WAS NOT A CONSTITUENT PART OF THE FRG.

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7. FRENCH DEPUTY POLITICAL ADVISER LASSUS POINTED OUT MAY 25 THAT THERE WAS LITTLE MENTION OF THE ALLIES IN THE STATEMENTS MADE BY GERMANS (EXCEPT GOVERNING MAYOR STOBBE) DURING THE QUEEN'S VISIT. HE ADDED THE FRENCH WERE NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT HAVING GISCARD D'ESTAING VISIT BERLIN BECAUSE OF THE DIFFICULTIES WITH THE SOVIET THAT WOULD INEVITABLY ARISE. THAT WAS THE REASON THAT FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD'S RECENT TRIP TO BERLIN WAS SPECIFICALLY NOT CONNECTED WITH A VISIT TO THE FRG. GEORGE

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014